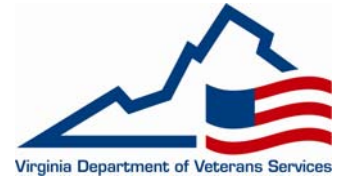


The Virginia Department of Veterans Services



900 East Main Street • Richmond, VA 23219 • www.virginiaforveterans.com

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Ceremonies Honoring Veterans to Be Held May 26 at State Veterans Cemeteries

RICHMOND—The Virginia Department of Veterans Services will hold Memorial Day ceremonies honoring veterans at the state's two veterans cemeteries on May 26. The ceremonies will begin at 10 a.m. at both cemeteries.

Former Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore, III, will be the guest speaker at the Albert G. Horton, Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery, located at 5310 Milners Road in Suffolk. As part of the ceremony, representatives from veteran service and other organizations will place wreaths at the Committal Shelter to honor Virginia's veterans. This event is sponsored by Commander Isaac Baker and members of the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 5 and the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary Unit 5.

Colonel Robert Sparks, Garrison Commander, Maneuver Training Center, Fort Pickett, Virginia Army National Guard will be the guest speaker at the Virginia Veterans Cemetery located at 10300 Pridesville Road in Amelia. As part of the ceremony, representatives from veteran service and other organizations will place wreaths at the Committal Shelter to honor Virginia's veterans. The event at the Veterans Cemetery in Amelia is sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Crewe, Post 7819 and Post 7819 Ladies Auxiliary.

American flags will be placed on grave sites at both cemeteries. Weather permitting, 75 flags will be erected along the perimeter road at the Veterans Cemetery in Amelia, creating the Avenue of Flags. At both cemeteries, cemetery staff will help visitors locate grave sites, and military service members and veterans can file pre-applications for future burial in the cemeteries.

Service members who were honorably discharged and who were Virginia residents either at the time of enlistment or at the time of death qualify for burial in one of Virginia's veterans cemeteries. A grave site, opening and closing of the grave for the veteran, placement of a government grave marker, and perpetual care of the site are provided to the veteran at no charge. Veterans' spouses and eligible dependent children may be interred for a small fee, currently \$300.

Visit www.virginiaforveterans.com for more information about Virginia's veterans cemeteries as well as other benefits available to veterans.

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Serving those who served.